



NBUMC NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2011



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The View From Here

by Pastor Pam

The headline on the cover of the magazine in the bookstore leapt out at me and demanded my attention. Emblazoned across a picture of a large red siren was the word “Crisis.” And in smaller type beneath, the words read, “Moments You Dare Not Waste.” The magazine was Leadership Journal, a publication that pastors and other church leaders turn to for insight into how to do real ministry in a complex world. This month’s issue is all about crisis in the church. It caught my eye because it has felt as though we as a church have been living through a crisis ourselves. We all know things are not right within our congregation. We may have different ideas about what’s wrong, but we know things are not the way they ought to be.

A crisis is never a welcome thing in our lives. No one wishes for one, but there are times when we find ourselves in the midst of a crisis anyway. One pastor once said, “If you’re a Christian pastor, you’re always in a crisis—either in the middle of one, coming out of one, or going into one.” As much as we hate being in the middle of a crisis, it can be a short-term opportunity to do some long-term good. One image that has stuck with me is what happens in a foundry when a piece of metal is heated enough to be shaped into something new. There’s only so much time available to do the shaping. When the metal cools, it’s too late. Bruce Thielemann has called this period of shaping “a molten moment.” What we experienced as a church last Wednesday evening, I believe, is our molten moment. It is our short term opportunity to do some long-term good. We may not like being in a crisis, but it is possible and reasonable to look at it through the lense of hope. God wants to do something really good here and we have the opportunity to work with God in discovering what that is. A crisis doesn’t have to destroy us. It can be the very thing we needed all along.

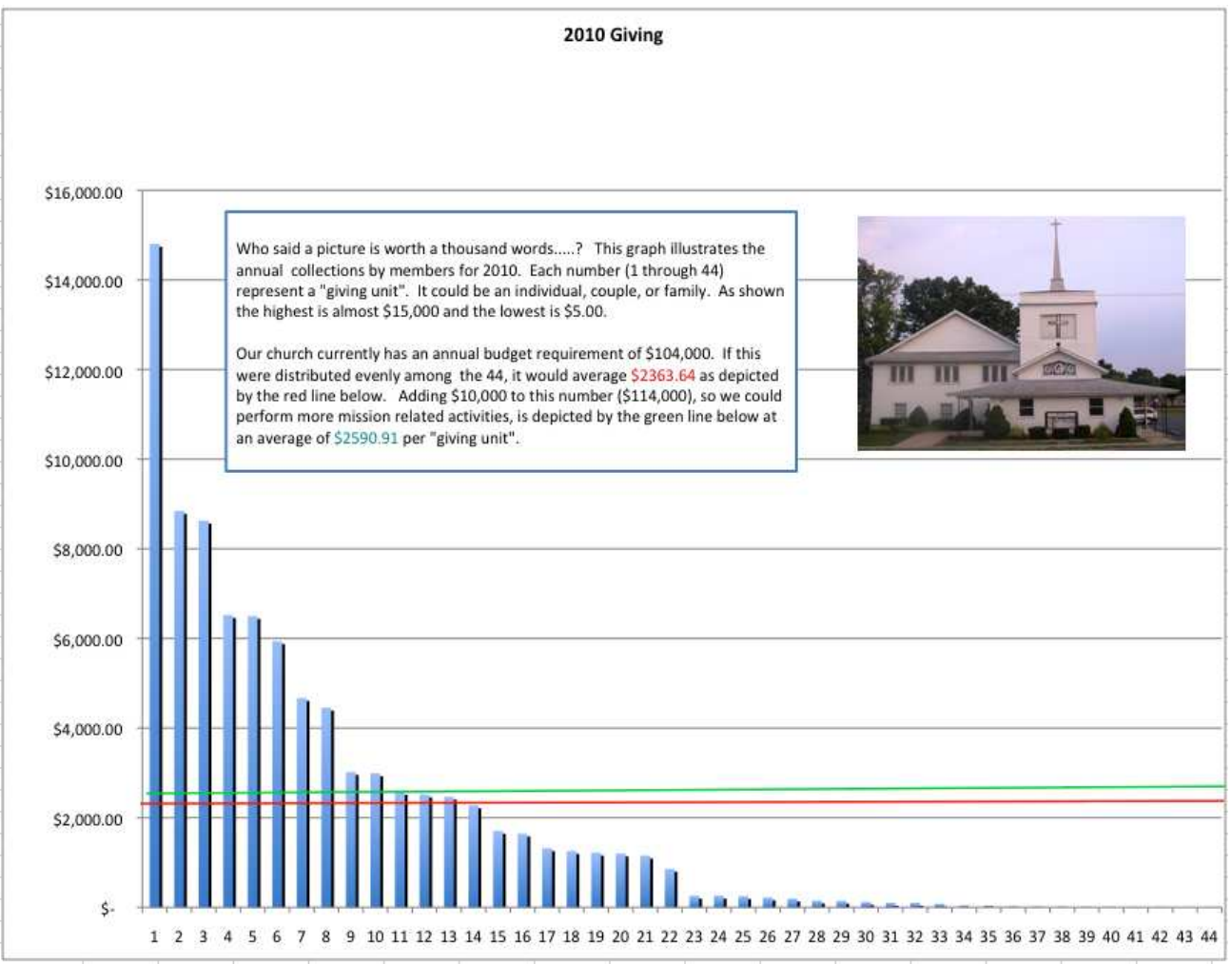
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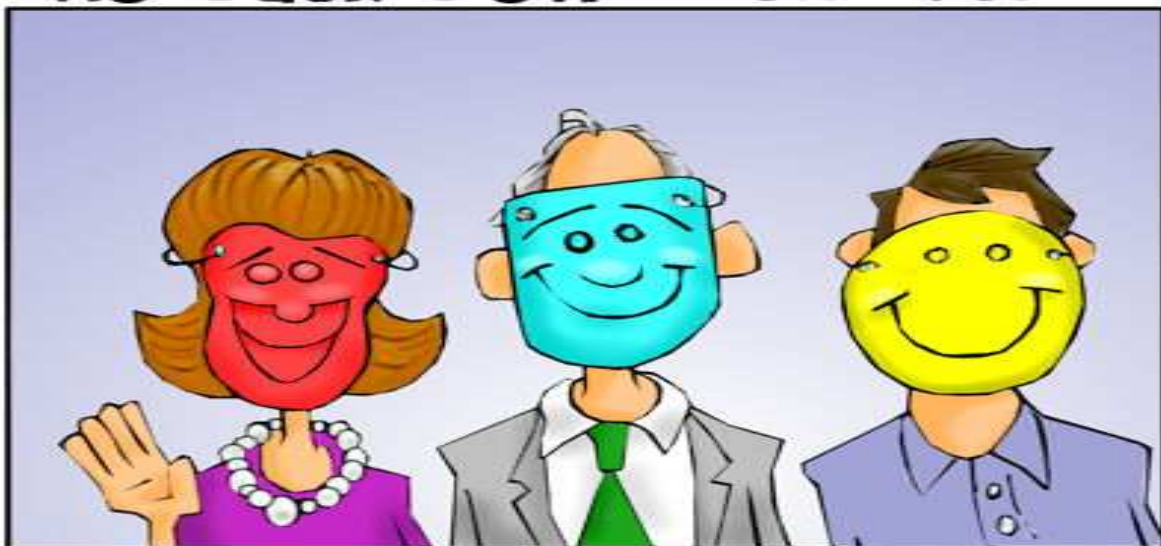
Before our congregational meeting last Wednesday, I didn’t know what to expect. I certainly did not expect what happened during those 90 minutes. I was heartened by the openness of many of those who were there and even more heartened by the civility. In other churches, that meeting could have turned into a fracas with accusations and finger pointing. We have had similar such meetings in the past, but not this past Wednesday. What I saw last Wednesday gives me hope for us as a church. I believe that we have been going through a necessary pruning these past five months. And while some may feel uneasy with that pruning, I believe it has been a necessary step in the road toward becoming whatever God wants us as a church to be. This is our molten moment. As a church, we are being heated over the foundry fire and as we surrender ourselves to God, this can be the moment when God is able to do some lasting good. So choose to view this as the opportunity that it is. God is here with us and he does amazing work.



- \$ 14,807.43
- \$ 8,846.00
- \$ 8,630.00
- \$ 6,520.98
- \$ 6,500.00
- \$ 5,940.00
- \$ 4,670.00
- \$ 4,455.00
- \$ 3,020.00
- \$ 2,991.00
- \$ 2,576.00
- \$ 2,521.00
- \$ 2,466.00
- \$ 2,275.00
- \$ 1,706.00
- \$ 1,645.00
- \$ 1,320.00
- \$ 1,256.00
- \$ 1,220.00
- \$ 1,200.00
- \$ 1,155.00
- \$ 860.00
- \$ 260.00
- \$ 260.00
- \$ 250.00
- \$ 220.00
- \$ 195.00
- \$ 150.00
- \$ 145.49
- \$ 120.00
- \$ 100.00
- \$ 100.00
- \$ 78.25
- \$ 45.00
- \$ 40.00
- \$ 25.00
- \$ 23.30
- \$ 20.00
- \$ 15.00
- \$ 12.25
- \$ 10.00
- \$ 10.00
- \$ 5.00
- \$ 5.00



The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



Say the right words, hide behind plastic smiles, 'play' church... or discover something more. **THE CHOICE IS OURS! Mt 10:29-31, 1 Cor 12:26**

Greeters

March 6 Steve & Brenda Lehr

*March 13 Laurel Peterson &
Chelsea Lehr*

*March 20 Carol Bequette &
Ruth Chaput*

March 27 Larry & Pam Buck

April 3 Allen & Donna Williams

Liturgists

March 6 & 13 Carol Bequette

March 20 & 27 Joe Jackson

April 3 & 10 Allen Williams



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

March 19

6:30 – 10:00 a.m.

***Your help would be
appreciated!***

In the Community

Zion UCC will be hosting a fried chicken dinner on Sat., March 5 from 4-7 p.m. The menu includes mashed potatoes, dressing, corn, green beans, slaw, bread, applesauce, dessert and beverage. Adults are \$8.25. Children between 6-12 are \$4. Children 5 and under are free (eat in only). All children's take outs are \$4.

St. George Catholic Church will be hosting a parish chicken dinner on Sunday, March 13 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The menu includes chicken, mashed potatoes, dressing, green beans, corn, coleslaw, jello salads, bakery bread, dessert and beverage. Price is \$8.50 for adults, \$4.25 for children age 5-12. Those under 5 years of age are free. Bring a donation for the food pantry and receive a .50 discount. Carry outs are available.

Health Screenings

Life Line Screening will offer preventative health screenings on Wed., March 2 at the New Baden Civic Center. Screenings will be offered to scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries and heart disease. The stroke, vascular disease and heart rhythm package costs \$139. Call 1-800- 324-1851 to register.

Rummage Sale

The next rummage sale will be held on April 1st and 2nd. Setup will begin on March 20th. Please begin thinking about items you might donate and bring them to the church at your earliest convenience.



Calendar & Events

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

<i>March 1</i>	<i>7:00 pm Trustees</i>
<i>March 2</i>	<i>7:00 pm Finance</i>
<i>March 6</i>	<i>8:00 am Praise Team</i>
	<i>7:00 pm Youth Group</i>
<i>March 8</i>	<i>7:00 pm Administrative Council</i>
<i>March 13</i>	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>
	<i>8:00 am Praise Team</i>
	<i>7:00 pm Youth Group</i>
<i>March 15</i>	<i>7:00 pm UMW</i>
<i>March 18</i>	<i>6:30-7:30 pm Brownies</i>
<i>March 19</i>	<i>6:30-10:00 a.m. Pancake Breakfast</i>
<i>March 20</i>	<i>8:00 am Praise Team</i>
	<i>7:00 pm Youth Group</i>
<i>March 21</i>	<i>6:30 pm UMM</i>
<i>March 27</i>	<i>8:00 am Praise Team</i>
	<i>7:00 pm Youth Group</i>
<i>March 29</i>	<i>7:00 pm Worship Committee</i>
<i>April 1-2</i>	<i>RUMMAGE SALE</i>

March Birthdays

<i>Chris Dates</i>	<i>5th</i>
<i>Donald Berberich</i>	<i>7th</i>
<i>Jordan Hill</i>	<i>7th</i>
<i>Joan Witte</i>	<i>10th</i>
<i>George Mason</i>	<i>12th</i>
<i>Kerri Thaler</i>	<i>13th</i>
<i>Chelsea Lehr</i>	<i>16th</i>
<i>Larry Davis</i>	<i>18th</i>
<i>Ruth Chaput</i>	<i>20th</i>
<i>Jacob Ruth</i>	<i>20th</i>
<i>Patricia Lewis</i>	<i>27th</i>
<i>Frances Smith</i>	<i>29th</i>

March Anniversaries

Donald & Pamela Berberich 31st




New Baden United Methodist Church

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E-Mail:
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Please find us on  by searching New Baden United Methodist Church.